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OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, ORE

15 August 1950

Subject: Special Staff Working Paper No. 20: Guide in
Major Fields of Study.

1. Power status of the USSR.
 - a. Military strength and capabilities*
 - b. Economic power potential for war**
 - c. Political-psychological preparedness for conditions of war.
2. Soviet intentions and political capabilities for military aggression.
 - a. Soviet control of East European satellites*
 - b. Sino-Soviet relations**
 - c. Strategy and current tactics of the international Communist movement.
3. Soviet intentions in UN**
4. Relative priorities of target areas for Soviet-sponsored satellite aggression.
5. Probability of direct military action by USSR against US and/or NATO Powers.
6. Consequences of possible courses of US action with respect to war.
 - a. US involvement in organized war with China.**
 - b. Development of NATO/MDAP/ERP to July 1952 as currently planned.
 - c. US decision to initiate atomic war against USSR.**
7. Consequences of possible settlements of the Korean incident.
 - a. US-UN re-establishment of status ante quo (38°) in Korea.
 - b. US-UN reconquest of all Korea.
 - c. US-UN mediation or negotiation resulting in cease fire while North Koreans control all or most of

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8. Status of US prestige in non-Communist countries.
9. For its own use in defining terms of reference for projects to be initiated within the above fields of study, the Project Planning Group has initiated a planning paper on the following problem: What are the various probable ways in which the US may become engaged in a full-scale war (military effort based on all-out mobilization of resources and manpower for organized combat? and what would be the course of the war for six months under the various possible concepts of war?

* Deferred.

** First priority.